

GCCS Return to School Planning Sheet 2021-2022

These guidelines will be followed to launch the 2021-2022 school year based upon recommendations by the Indiana Department of Health, the Clark County Department of Health, the Indiana Department of Education, and feedback received by local stakeholders. Changes made throughout the 2021-2022 school year can be found in the change log at the bottom of the document.

Face Coverings

- In accordance with CDC guidelines, staff and students who are not fully vaccinated are recommended to wear a mask/face covering; however, it will be optional during the school day.
- Masks/face coverings are **required on school buses** for all staff and students due to federal regulations for public transportation.

Social Distancing

- When possible, staff and students will remain three feet apart in classrooms and other school settings.
- In common areas, such as the cafeteria, gym, and gathering spaces, assigned seating/grouping will be used for contact tracing purposes.
- Staff meetings will return to in-person spaces with accommodations made for social distancing.

Hand Hygiene

- Staff and students will continue washing hands with soap and water many times throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available in classrooms and high traffic areas.
- Schools will promote hand hygiene throughout schools with visual cues.

Cleaning

Schools will:

- Follow a daily cleaning schedule for routine cleaning
- Clean high touch surfaces and objects frequently
- Limit sharing of high touch objects that are difficult to regularly clean
- Sanitize surfaces when food is involved, including before and after food prep and eating meals and snacks
- Disinfect nurse clinic and isolation room and rooms occupied by those who are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID (i.e., SPED rooms)

Ventilation and Air Quality

GCCS has already begun work for better air quality filtering. In 2021, GCCS performed many HVAC improvements across the district:

- Ultra-Violet Ionization Filters installed for anti-virus filtration
- \$8 million dollars through CARES Act III funding during the 2021-2022 school year.
 - Improved air quality measures
 - Energy Savings

In addition, schools will:

- Consider being outside as much as possible
- Bring in as much fresh air into classrooms and buildings as possible
- Open windows and doors when possible and use fans to increase fresh air flow
- Open windows on buses as much as possible.

Drinking Fountains

- Drinking fountains will remain off, but have been replaced by no-touch activation water stations throughout the district. Access to the drinking water should allow for social distancing.
- Staff and students are encouraged to bring their own water/water bottles.

Health Clinic

Schools will:

- Identify isolation area to hold potentially infectious individuals separately from others receiving routine healthcare
- Continue wearing PPE as needed when caring for students and staff
- Follow current CDC guidance related to infection control, cleaning and disinfecting in the school clinic
- Communicate vaccine safety and encourage those who are eligible to obtain their COVID vaccine
- Isolate those who are symptomatic until they can be transported home
- Encourage COVID testing or evaluation for COVID infection if symptoms suspicious for COVID
- Determine vaccination status of symptomatic individuals
- Report positive cases to Teresa Stengel, Health Services Supervisor, if close contacts at school/school event are identified
- Provide a Daily Parent Screening Tool to parents for daily use
- Efforts will be made to provide vaccinations to school communities periodically

Food Services

Schools will:

- Practice hand hygiene before/after meals by providing hand washing stations or hand sanitizer
- Serve grab and go or individually packaged meal components. Students will be able to pick up any pre-packaged items from the line or coolers.
- Separate/clearly label meals specifically prepared for those with allergies or dietary restrictions
- Use disposable food service items when possible. If disposable items are not feasible, make sure dirty non-disposable food service items are handled with gloves and washed, rinsed and sanitized to meet food safety requirements
- Eat outside whenever possible.
- Use assigned seating/groupings for contact tracing purposes.
- Clean and sanitize surfaces that come into contact with food, including desks and tables where student eat

Transportation

- GCCS will follow current guidance from CDC and National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT). Pursuant to this guidance, **face coverings are required on public transportation**, including school buses.

School Events/Performing Arts/Sports

Athletic Events

- [GCCS Return to Athletic Competition Plan 2021-2022](#)

Performance

- [GCCS Return to Performances/Club Events Plan 2021-2022](#)

Field Trips

- Academic day and extended day field trips will resume.
- Overnight field trips will only be approved if the requested travel time is within thirty days of the request being approved by the school board.

Fundraisers

- In-person fundraisers must follow the guidelines found in the [GCCS Return to Performances/Club Events Plan](#). Concessions must be pre packed items and/or food truck service.
- Sales fundraisers are limited to brochure sales via phone calls, emails, and/or Google forms. **Face to face** sales are not allowed.
- Social distancing guidelines must be attached on the board request form for approval.

Facilities Usage Requests for Non-GCCS Groups

- Until further notice, indoor building usage will be limited to common areas such as the gym, cafeteria, library, auditorium, etc. No

- classroom usage will be approved.
- Facilities Usage Requests must follow all GCCS guidelines.

School Visitors During the School Day

Academic Visitors/Volunteers

- Academic visitors will be screened by the school principal for approval.
- Students will be allowed to visit other school buildings for curricular purposes.
- Staff will be allowed to travel between buildings upon principal/district approval.

Non-Academic Visitors/Volunteers will not be allowed until further notice.

Quarantine Guidelines

Staff Quarantine Guidelines

- If fully vaccinated, no need to quarantine if asymptomatic. Proof of vaccination will be required.
- If not vaccinated, or no proof of vaccination has been provided, staff members identified as a close contact will need to quarantine following the guidelines below.
 - If asymptomatic:
 - Quarantine for 8 days if documentation of a negative PCR test on days 5-7, or a negative rapid on day 8 OR
 - Quarantine for 10 days if the staff member is able to wear mask and social distance at all times on days 11-14 OR
 - Quarantine for 14 days with return on day 15
 - If symptomatic:
 - Pursuant to CDC guidelines, unvaccinated employees are required to quarantine when symptomatic or if they have been exposed and considered a close contact to someone with COVID-19 for 14 days.
- GCCS will continue contact tracing to determine close contacts during the upcoming school year. While GCCS will not require employees to provide proof of vaccination, employees choosing not to provide necessary documentation when exposed or symptomatic, will be required to quarantine as required by the CDC & the Indiana Department of Health.
- Effective with the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, GCCS will not be offering paid time off or working from home options in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Employees subject to quarantine will be required to take annual leave days for all days missed.

Student Quarantine Guidelines

- If fully vaccinated, no need to quarantine if asymptomatic. Proof of vaccination will be required.
- If not vaccinated, or no proof of vaccination has been provided, students identified as a close contact must quarantine for 14 days.

- Pursuant to CDC guidelines, unvaccinated students are required to quarantine when symptomatic or if they have been exposed and considered a close contact to someone with Covid-19. GCCS will continue contact tracing to determine close contacts during the upcoming school year. While GCCS will not require students to provide proof of vaccination; however, students without necessary documentation when exposed or symptomatic will be required to quarantine as required by the CDC & the Indiana Department of Health.